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PLAGUE-PREVENTION WORK.

DISTRIBUTION OF POISON.

In connection with the making of a squirrel-free zone around the cities in California on San Francisco Bay, 140 acres of land in Alameda County were covered with poison during the week ended March 18, 1911.

Record of Plague Infection.

Places.	Date of last case of human plague.	Date of last case of rat plague.	Date of last case of squirrel plague.	Total number of rodents found infected since May, 1907.
California:				
Cities—				
San Francisco.....	Jan. 30, 1908.....	Oct. 23, 1908.....	None.....	398 rats.
Oakland.....	Oct. 26, 1909.....	Dec. 1, 1908.....	do.....	126 rats.
Berkeley.....	Aug. 28, 1907.....	None recorded..	do.....	None.
Los Angeles.....	Aug. 11, 1908.....	None.....	Aug. 21, 1908.....	1 squirrel.
Counties—				
Alameda (exclusive of the city of Oakland).	Sept. 26, 1909.....	Wood rat, Oct. 17, 1909.....	Feb. 1, 1911.....	94 squirrels.
Contra Costa.....	July 21, 1908.....	None.....	Sept. 10, 1910.....	1 wood rat.
Merced.....	None recorded..	do.....	June 6, 1910.....	247 squirrels.
Monterey.....	do.....	do.....	do.....	2 squirrels.
San Benito.....	June 5, 1910.....	do.....	July 11, 1910.....	4 squirrels.
San Joaquin.....	None recorded..	do.....	Jan. 9, 1911.....	20 squirrels.
San Luis Obispo.....	do.....	do.....	Jan. 29, 1910.....	11 squirrels.
Santa Clara.....	Aug. 23, 1910.....	do.....	Oct. 5, 1910.....	1 squirrel.
Santa Cruz.....	None recorded..	do.....	May 17, 1910.....	23 squirrels.
Stanislaus.....	do.....	do.....	May 21, 1910.....	3 squirrels.
Washington:				
Seattle.....	Oct. 30, 1907.....	Feb. 8, 1910.....	None.....	5 squirrels.
				22 rats.

Rats Collected and Examined for Plague Infection.

Places.	Week ended—	Found dead.	Total collected.	Examined.	Found infected.
California:					
Cities—					
Berkeley.....	Mar. 18.....	.....	¹ 91	56	.....
Oakland.....	do.....	35	² 634	482	.....
San Francisco.....	do.....	30	³ 1,545	1,050	.....
Counties—					
Mariposa.....	do.....	.....	⁴ 15	15	.....
Washington:					
Cities—					
Seattle.....	do.....	.....	897	764	.....
Total.....	.....	65	3,182	2,367	.....

¹ Identified, *Mus norvegicus* 58, *Mus musculus* 33.

² Identified, *Mus norvegicus* 512, *Mus rattus* 5, *Mus musculus* 117.

³ Identified, *Mus norvegicus* 832, *Mus rattus* 143, *Mus musculus* 395, *Mus alexandrinus* 175.

⁴ Identified, *Mus norvegicus* 2, *Mus musculus* 13.

Examination of Rats from Steamship.

During the week ended March 18, 1911, there were examined at the Federal laboratory at San Francisco, Cal., 18 rats from the steamship *City of Puebla*. No plague-infected rats were found.

Squirrels Collected and Examined for Plague Infection.

Places.	Week ended—	Trapped and shot.	Found dead.	Examined.	Found infected.
California:					
Cities—					
San Francisco.....	Mar. 18	4		4	
Counties—					
Alameda.....	do.....	289	2	291	
Fresno.....	do.....	113		113	
Imperial.....	do.....	248		234	
Kern.....	do.....	22		20	
Los Angeles.....	do.....	340		331	
Madera.....	do.....	130		130	
Mariposa.....	do.....	175		171	
Monterey.....	do.....	734	2	728	
Riverside.....	do.....	39		36	
San Joaquin.....	do.....	618	7	601	
San Luis Obispo.....	do.....	448	23	461	
Santa Clara.....	do.....	315		311	
Stanislaus.....	do.....	341		339	
Yolo.....	do.....	74	1	75	
Total.....		3,890	35	3,845	

Other Animals Collected and Examined.

Places.	Week ended—	Animals collected.	Examined.	Found infected.
California:				
Counties—				
Alameda.....	Mar. 18	1 rabbit.....	1	
Fresno.....	do.....	3 rabbits.....	5	
		1 weasel.....		
		1 owl.....		
Imperial.....	do.....	16 rabbits.....	16	
Mariposa.....	do.....	5 rabbits.....		
Monterey.....	do.....	7 rabbits.....	19	
		12 kangaroo rats.....		
San Joaquin.....	do.....	1 rabbit.....	1	
San Luis Obispo.....	do.....	7 rabbits.....	28	
		5 weasels.....		
		16 gophers.....		
Santa Clara.....	do.....	16 rabbits.....	35	
		19 gophers.....		
Stanislaus.....	do.....	5 rabbits.....	5	
Yolo.....	do.....	8 rabbits.....	10	
		2 gophers.....		
Total.....			120	

SMALLPOX IN THE UNITED STATES.

In the following tables the States indicated by an asterisk are those from which reports of smallpox are received only from certain city and, in some cases, county boards of health. In these States, therefore, the recorded cases and deaths should not be taken as showing the general prevalence of the disease. In the States not marked by an asterisk the reports are received monthly from the State boards of health and include all cases reported throughout the State.